

Application No. 10/465,789
Amendment dated April 5, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2004

REMARKS

With the entry of the present Amendment, claims 21-25 have been canceled without prejudice and new claims 26-28 are in this application. The new claims are supported by the as-filed claims and Specification at page 23, for example. These claims contain the subject matter which the Examiner identified as allowable in the Conclusion of the current Office Action, and it is believed that, with the entry of the new claims, this case is allowable. None of the amendments made herein constitutes the addition of new matter.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 21-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Takao et al. (1996) in view of Ford et al. (1991). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In the interest of advancing prosecution and without acquiescing to the rejection, Applicants have canceled claims 21-24 without prejudice. The rejection has been rendered moot and should be withdrawn.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

Claims 21-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking adequate written description. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In the interest of advancing prosecution and without acquiescing to the rejection, Applicants have canceled claims 21-24 without prejudice. The rejection has been rendered moot, and should be withdrawn.

Claim 25 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking adequate enablement. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

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In the interest of advancing prosecution and without acquiescing to the rejection, Applicants have canceled claim 25 without prejudice. The rejection has been rendered moot, and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and early notification thereof is requested.

If, in the interest of expediting prosecution, the Examiner has questions or comments, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

This Amendment is accompanied by a Notice of Appeal, Petition for Extension of Time (three months) and authorization to charge the requisite fees to Deposit Account 07-1969. If the authorized charges are incorrect, however, please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment pursuant to the foregoing Rules to Deposit Account No. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,



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